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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/714,285	11/17/2000	Miyoshi Saito	100021-00033	6273

7590 11/16/2005

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EXAMINER

TSE, YOUNG TOI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2637

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/714,285	Applicant(s) SAITO ET AL.	
	Examiner YOUNG T. TSE	Art Unit 2637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 17-47, 49-64, 66-68 and 70-80 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 40, 41, 43, 44, 56, 66-68, 71, 72 and 74-76 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 17-19, 21, 29, 30, 38, 39, 42, 45-47, 49-55, 58-64, 70, 73 and 77-80 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 20, 22-28, 31-37 and 57 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 October 2005 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 24 2005 has been entered.

Drawings

2. The drawings were received on October 24, 2005. These drawings are unacceptable because drawing changes must be made by representing replacement figures which incorporate the desired changes and which comply with 37 CFR 1.84. Any replacement drawing sheet must **be identified in the top margin as "Replacement Sheet"** and include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even though only one figure may be amended.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 17-39, 57 and 59-64 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 17, line 22, "said one" should be "said at least one". Also see claim 20, line 15.

In claim 18, line 2, "said data bus" should be "said data bus amplifier".

In claim 27, line 3, "bus amplifier" should be "data bus amplifier".

In claim 33, line 4, "a bus" should be "the bus".

In claim 37, lines 3 and 5, "said target unit" should be "said at least one target unit".

In claim 57, line 3, "or" should be "and".

In claim 59, line 4, "said row block" should be "said each row block".

In claim 61, lines 3 and 4, "said logic" should be "said dynamic logic".

In claim 64, line 2, "an memory" should be "a memory".

The dependent claims 19, 21-26, 28-36, 38-39, 60 and 62-63 are directly or indirectly depended over claims 17, 20 and 59.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 17-19, 21, 29-30, 38-39, 42, 45-47, 49-55, 58-64, 70, 73 and 77-80 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 17, lines 3 and 22, two sense amplifiers are recited, clarify the difference?

In claim 18, line 2, "said sense amplifier" lacks antecedent basis (see claim 17 above).

In claim 19, line 7, "said memory cell" lacks antecedent basis since claim 17 (lines 22-23) recites one memory cell and claim 18 (line 4) recites another memory cell.

In claim 21, line 3, what is "the length of a transmitted symbol" has to do with "the response time of the transmission line"?

In claim 29, lines 4 and 9, clarify the difference of "a driver"?

Claims 38 and 39 lack connection or cooperation with the precedent claim 20.

In claim 42, line 3, "said data bus" lacks antecedent basis. Also see claim 45, lines 3 and 5.

Claims 46 and 47 lack connection or cooperation with the precedent claim 40.

In claim 49, lines 5 (both occurrences), 7 and 8, "the bus" lacks antecedent basis. Also see claims 50-51 and 53-54.

In claim 50, lines 10 (both occurrences), 11, 13-14, 14 and 15, "said block" and "said NEXT state period" both lack antecedent basis. Also see claim 51 (line 18) and claim 52 (lines 2 and 3).

In claim 50, line 12, is "a bus" the same or different bus than the "data bus"?

In claim 58, lines 3-4, "the selected state of the row selection line in the row block" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 70, the claimed subject matter recited in line 11-13 lacks connection or cooperation with the claimed subject matter recited in lines 1-10. Also see claim 78 (lines 11-14), claim 79 (lines 11-12) and claim 80 (lines 11-13).

In claim 73, lines 11-13, it is unclear what are the "first sense amplifier" and the "last sense amplifier" related to the "sense amplifier"?

In claim 77, lines 4 and 5, it is unclear what are "whose sources" and "whose gates" related to the transistors?

The dependent claims 30, 55, and 59-64 are depended over claims 29, 54 and 58.

Allowable Subject Matter

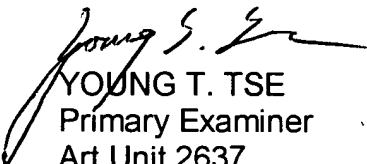
6. Claims 40-41, 43-44, 56, 66-68, 71-72 and 74-76 are allowed.
7. Claims 20, 22-28, 31-37 and 57 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection(s) set forth in this Office action.
8. Claims 17-19, 21, 29-30, 38-39, 42, 45-47, 49-55, 58-64, 70, 73 and 77-80 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to YOUNG T. TSE whose telephone number is (571) 272-3051. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday and alternative Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jay Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2988. The Central FAX Number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


YOUNG T. TSE
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2637